

March 10, 1982

LB 647

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 647 offered by Senator Hefner, (read title). The bill was read on January 6th and referred to the Government for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. The Legislature considered the issue on March 8th of this year. I have pending, Mr. President, a motion from Senator Hefner and the amendment is on page 922 of the Journal.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol or Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, colleagues, I would like to give you just a short summary of the bill. I passed out some information the other day and in this bill we strike the expenditures incurred by a circulator. Also we remove the provision which would permit a noncounty resident from circulating a petition. The result then would be that only registered voters in their counties of residence could circulate petition. Existing law provides that the county clerk of each county shall maintain a copy of the petition available for signatures in their office. This bill, LB 647 would require an explanation of the issue to be with the petition. And now to the amendment, you will find the amendment on page 922. "On page 5 strike the new language in line 7 through line 11." Under the current Nebraska law, a circulator is required to explain the provision of an initiative petition at the time he or she seeks a signature. However, there is no penalty for not doing so and we are inserting a Class V misdemeanor which is up to a \$100 fine for noncompliance with the provision. We had problems with this in committee and so the amendment that I am proposing would strike that and so I would urge you to support this amendment to strike the penalty clause.

SENATOR CLARK: I would like to announce that in the North balcony there is ten preschool and some 6th graders from Syracuse, District 69. This is in Senator Carsten's District. The teacher is Shirley Stubbendick. Will you stand up and be recognized please. Welcome to the Unicameral. Senator Chambers is next. The question before the House is the amendment as explained by Senator Hefner. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting yes.

SENATOR CLARK: Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: The amendments are adopted. Senator Hefner, did you have something else on the bill? All right, we